The specific objectives of the symposium are to:

- share state-of-the art research on universal health coverage;
- develop a global agenda of priority research on accelerating progress towards universal health coverage;
- facilitate greater research collaboration and learning communities across disciplines, sectors, initiatives and countries;
- strengthen the scientific rigor of the field of health systems research including concepts, frameworks, measures and methods;
- identify mechanisms for strengthening capacities â€“ individual, institutional and infrastructural â€“ for research on health systems particularly in low- and middle-income countries.